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News Release



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VALUE OF NEW YORK FRESH VEGETABLES RANKS FIFTH IN NATION

The value of all New York vegetable production in 2009 totaled \$325 million, according to Stephen Ropel, Director of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, New York Field Office. New York is fifth in the nation in area harvested and value of principal fresh market vegetables.

The value of the Empire State's principal fresh market vegetables totaled \$278 million this year. Fresh market production in 2009 was estimated at 12.1 million hundredweight (cwt.). Planted acreage decreased from 68,710 acres in 2008 to 68,230 acres in 2009.

Processing vegetables were valued at \$47.6 million in 2009 and production totaled 208 thousand tons.

New York onion yields averaged 410 cwt. per acre, even with 2008. Year 2009 production is estimated at 4.14 million cwt., equal to 2008. Value is down 23 percent to a total of \$45.5 million.

New York's fresh market cabbage production for 2009, estimated at 3.50 million cwt., is down from 2008's production of 5.61 million cwt. New York ranked second in the nation for fresh market cabbage production in 2009.

Fresh market sweet corn acreage was down in 2009. A total of 21,500 acres were harvested, a 6 percent decrease from last year. Yields decreased from 125 cwt. per acre in 2008 to 100 cwt. per acre in 2009. Total value was at \$58.3 million, down 21 percent from last year.

New York is ranked fourth in the nation on value of the 2009 New York fresh market snap bean crop, at \$23.6 million. Harvested acres increased from 6,600 to 6,700 acres. Yield decreased from 73 cwt per acre to 40 cwt per acre. Total production was 268,000 cwt., down 44 percent from last year due to lower yields.

Pumpkins showed a value of \$21.8 million, second in the nation. There were 6,000 acres harvested for a production of 750 thousand cwt. Value of production in 2009 decreased 43 percent from 2008.

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